SYPHILIS CAN EASILY BE CURED WITH ANTIBLOTICS! Am I At Risk? If you have unprotected sex (without a condom) you may be

Symptoms

Syphilis is a disease with several stages of infection, which can ultimately lead to severe heart and brain defects if unnoticed or untreated.

Primary: The first stage of infection. A small round sore will appear at the point where syphilis entered the body (this can be ANYWHERE). The sore is painless and will heal on its own within 3-6 weeks

Secondary: The second stage of infection. A skin rash will appear on one or more areas of the body. The rash will not itch, but may appear rough and red-to-brown colored on the skin. Sometimes the rash is so light it is hard to notice. Along with the rash a fever, headache, sore throat, hair loss, swollen glands, fatigue and weight loss may occur. The symptoms of secondary syphilis will heal on their own without treatment within 3-6 weeks. **Late and Latent Stages:** The final stages. These stages can last for years if you are not

treated for early infection. The disease may cause damage of the: brain, heart, nerves, eyes, blood vessels, liver, bones and joints. Late infection may also include difficulty with

muscle movement, paralysis (no muscle movement), dementia, numbness, blindness and could lead to death.

If you have syphilis or any other STD the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Wyoming Department of Health recommend you get tested for HIV as well.

If you have unprotected sex (without a condom) you may be at risk for syphilis infection.

If you have contact with any sores on another person's body, you may be at risk for syphilis infection

You may not have any signs or symptoms of syphilis because the sores may not be seen! Get tested to be sure you are not infected.

FOR YOUR RESULTS: Follow up with your healthcare provider if you have not been notified of your test results within 2 weeks of your test.

REMEMBER DO NOT HAVE SEX AFTER TREATMENT UNTIL ALL SORES HAVE COMPLETELY HEALED!!!

It is extremely important that ALL of your sex partners are notified and tested for syphilis so they can be treated also

Wyoming

Department

of Health

How Can I Learn More?

You can ask your doctor for more information about syphilis.

You can also contact the Wyoming STD Program at (307) 777 – 8939 for more information about syphilis and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs).

The following web sites provide information about syphilis, treatment and personal stories.

http://www.cdc.gov/std/Syphilis/default.htm http://www.herpes-coldsores.com/std/syphilis.htm http://www.getthei.com

For a list of clinics in Wyoming visit:

http://wdh.state.wy.us/phsd/std/stdresources.html

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